

STD rates and marked incidents of violence. The original core of 12 teens has since grown to over 100 youths a year.

Because of these efforts, he is one of 10 outstanding individuals selected this year to receive a \$100,000 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Program award.

You know, Mr. Speaker, it is important that we give the children hope. That we give them a chance. A helping hand up. A chance to have a mentor, to have someone believe in them. Because through that confidence in them comes confidence in themselves. The Reverend Kalke has done that. I think we must all remember the role models in our lives, and remember those who inspired us to see the possibilities. So we can all understand what it is for a child to have the sort of opportunities, the sort of chance that the Reverend Kalke has given them.

The Reverend Kalke has a long history of public service and involvement with serving our youth. His deeply held beliefs that the church should be actively involved in the community began with a mission to Chile during the 1970s. He eventually returned to New York City where he led a Lutheran church congregation and initiated a broad array of community programs in the South Bronx.

In 1996, he was asked by the Lutheran church to revive a struggling church in a poverty-stricken section of San Bernardino, CA, known to have the State's highest teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease rates, as well as one of the highest incidences of gang-related violence.

From the beginning, his vision faced obvious risks. His church, the Central City Lutheran Mission (CCLM), was abandoned with no established community ties and a regular risk of violence from area youth gangs. To gain the neighborhood's trust, Kalke hired local teens to help clean up the site, offering to pay small salaries while they undertook peer HIV/AIDS health educator training. The original core of 12 teens has since grown to over 100 youths a year, working, learning and volunteering in what has become a gang-free, safe space in the midst of a devastated neighborhood.

Admirers have observed: "Not since Escalante worked his magic in teaching calculus to poor minority kids in East Los Angeles has anyone witnessed the dedication, caring, knowledge and skills of David Kalke in assisting 'throw away' kids in a 'throw away' neighborhood to learn ways to improve their own and the neighborhood's existence."

CCLM's programs now include: an adolescent health program which employs peer educators to teach HIV, STD and teen pregnancy prevention; an after school program for 50 children between the ages of 5-12 to help with homework and nutrition; and, a teen day-school for suspended, expelled or home-study students. CCLM's cultural programs include art, writing and photography. Teens publish a newsletter of poems, drawings and photographs on the realities of inner city life.

The Reverend Kalke has also raised federal and city funding to rehabilitate abandoned homes and turn them into transitional housing for homeless HIV+ persons.

In order to create these programs he has effectively pulled together numerous partners including other churches, California State University at San Bernardino (Cal State) and the

city council. Cal State's Social Work, Public Health and Communications Departments regularly send interns and nursing students to conduct 9-month internships at CCLM.

The CCLM programs have transformed hundreds of individual lives, giving food, shelter, education, safety and hope where there was none.

And so we honor the Reverend Kalke, and we salute him, for his achievement and his commitment to our youth.

TRIBUTE TO HUGO NEU

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Hugo Neu Schitzer East, one of the largest scrap metal recyclers in New Jersey, for their proactive efforts to improve industrial recycling.

The Hugo Neu Schitzer East Company has been operating in Port Liberty, New Jersey for the last 40 years. They have invested several million dollars in research and development, attempting to find new and better ways to mine and recycle waste metal. They have done so with the goal of reducing the amount of scrap metal that needs to be disposed of in landfills.

For example, almost a quarter of the metal produced by the shredding of an automobile cannot be recycled and needs to be disposed of in a landfill. Hugo Neu is working to dispose these waste materials in a more environmentally sound manner, as well as find ways to recycle and reuse a larger portion of scrap material.

I ask to submit an article from the Business News New Jersey that better outlines Hugo Neu's efforts on behalf of the environment.

[From the Business News New Jersey, Jersey City, NJ, June 5, 2001]

SCRAPPING OLD WAYS AND LOOK FOR NEW ONES

(By Geeta Sundaramoorthy)

John Neu and Robert Kelman like to say jokingly that they are still trying to figure out how to make money after being in the scrap metal recycling business for 40 years. As part owner and general manager, respectively, of Hugo Neu Schnitzer East, one of the biggest recyclers in the region, they may only be half joking.

Jersey City-based Hugo Neu buys scrap metal from auto dealers and construction companies, then shreds, processes and ships it to customers for use as raw material in making steel. With international prices of scrap funding to historic lows and costs going up, scrap metal recyclers, including Hugo Neu, are finding it hard to keep the revenue flowing in from their core business.

The company has annual revenues of about \$170 million, 225 employees, and handles 1.3 million tons of scrap annually in the New York metro region. It says it is the region's largest exporter of processed scrap.

According to Kelman, in the last 18 months scrap prices have dropped from about \$130 per gross ton to less than \$80, a 38% falloff. International demand for scrap has also fallen as Asian economies hit hard times, competition increased from Russia and domestic demand decreased as cheap imports of steel pushed many U.S. steel makers near bank-

ruptcy. Strict environmental standards for the disposal of waste and higher wage and energy costs are also pushing the costs up, he points out. "We are squeezed into a box," says the 62-year-old Neu.

Their neighbors, which in Hugo Neu's case include the residents of the Port Liberty condominium complex, on the Jersey City waterfront also don't much appreciate the noise and grit associated with recycling operations.

So Neu and Kelman, as well as other recyclers, are now busy looking for ways to diversify their revenue stream. Hugo Neu is looking for ways to recycle new materials, especially the waste left behind after the current processing is done, and for new lines of business to enter.

Hugo Neu is spending \$20 million to dredge the channel leading to its Claremont terminal pier facility in Jersey City to a depth of 34 feet so it can use its port and crane facilities to off load freighters carrying break bulk metal cargoes such as rods, rails and other steel products. The company is splitting the cost of the dredging project with the state and work is slated to be finished in 18 months.

Hugo Neu is not the only scrap recycler looking to diversify into break bulk cargo. Newark-based Naporano Iron and Metal, a unit of Chicago's Metal Management which is close to emerging out of Chapter 11 bankruptcy, also plans to boost its stevedoring business and handle break bulk cargo at its Port Newark facility. Last month, the company won a battle against the International Longshoremen's Association to use its own labor for loading and unloading some break bulk cargo.

John Neu's father, Hugo Neu, who is considered a pioneer in the scrap recycling industry, started the family business in the early 1960s. It split in 1994, after Hugo Neu's death, with John Neu getting the scrap metal operations and half the real estate business. John Neu, now CEO of Manhattan-based Hugo Neu Corporation, formed Hugo Neu Schnitzer East in 1998—as a 50% joint venture with Schnitzer Steel Industries of Portland, Oregon. It is now Hugo Neu's largest operation, and is run by Kelman, 38, who is Neu's brother-in-law.

Kelman concedes the scrap business is dusty and noisy and some neighbors have a legitimate grouse about noise. Port Liberty is about 1,000 feet from Hugo Neu's Claremont terminal, and is separated by a channel, where the recent dredging work has only increased residents ire. Our business involves processing and transportation. It is an environmental issue. "People say why do we need to have a scrap processing business in a residential area?" says Neu, adding that most scrap is generated in the New York metro area. "It has to get out of the city and come to the docks in the New York harbor."

Kelman says his company's port has been operating for more than 40 years, whereas the Port Liberty residents came only 12 years ago. "There is only so much we can do to minimize the impact," he says, adding the company has even built a container wall to keep the operations out of the sight of residents. The question is whose impact will be greater for the economy, ours or the residential units, he asks.

Jersey City has, in a way, answered that question by choosing to keep that part of waterfront reserved for industrial use. AnneMarie Uebbing, director of the city's department of housing, economic development and commerce, says it has supported Hugo Neu's dredging project, recognizing the importance of Claremont as an international port, especially when Hugo Neu starts bringing in more ships carrying break bulk cargo. Uebbing says the city supports industrial development that can arise around the port, including warehousing and manufacturing.